

7-1987

UA66/6/2 Alumni Newsletter

WKU Biology

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Recommended Citation

WKU Biology, "UA66/6/2 Alumni Newsletter" (1987). *WKU Archives Records*. Paper 5223.
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WESTERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY

BOWLING GREEN, KENTUCKY 42101

WESTERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY
ARCHIVES

Department of Biology

July 1987

Dear Biology Alumnus,

Greetings from the Department of Biology at Western Kentucky University. I trust that this news letter will update your knowledge of our activities during the past year. In addition, the department would like to make this annual letter a true "newsletter" by including information about our graduates. We hope you will send us information about your activities on the enclosed form. Please use the enclosed envelope for your convenience. This information will be included in our newsletter next summer.

Student and Club News

Congratulations have been extended to Pat Dinning (Bowling Green, Ky.) for being awarded Outstanding Biology Graduate, 1987. Mr. Dinning was active in student societies and undergraduate research while maintaining an excellent academic record. He will be entering medical school at the University of Kentucky this fall.

We are also proud that two biology majors were involved in a three-way tie for top academic honors for the entire graduating class of 1987. Edwina Hall Strickler (Elkton, Ky.) and Todd Cheever (Corbin, Ky.) finished their program as biology majors with a perfect grade point average of 4.0. Both Mrs. Strickler and Mr. Cheever will be entering the University of Kentucky Medical School this fall.

The department continues to emphasize undergraduate research activities and congratulates those students who have presented papers. Ramie Hamilton and Shelly Rich jointly presented a paper which won third place at the regional Beta Beta Beta convention at the University of Georgia. This same paper, sponsored by Dr. Kupchella, was awarded second place at the annual Sigma Xi Research Conference held here at Western Kentucky University. At the same Sigma Xi event, Gary Howard won first place in the graduate division for his research paper sponsored by Dr. Elliott.

Two of our graduating M.S. degree students will continue on for the Ph.D. degree. Gary Howard has received a research assistantship for study in the Department of Animal Science at the University of Illinois. Stan Silver will be continuing his studies on a research assistantship in the Department of Biochemistry at Iowa State University.

The leadership role of the L.Y. Lancaster Mu Gamma Chapter of Beta Beta Beta continued as students participated in the regional convention program held on the campus of the University of Georgia in April. Hayden Mattingly, Vice President of the chapter for 1987-88 was elected Vice President of Region II, Southeastern Section of Beta Beta Beta. Of the two papers presented at the regional convention by chapter members, one presented by Ramie Hamilton of Mu Gamma with Shelly Rich won third place (see above). Other officers of the

chapter elected for 1987-88 are: Kevin Thompson, President; Beth Martin, Secretary; Joe Smith, Historian and Tommy Petersen, Activities Chairperson. Drs. Larry Elliott and Joe Winstead continue as Faculty advisors.

Alpha Epsilon Delta (AED) has completed a very active and productive year. In addition to involvement in freshman orientation for health care pre-professional students, Hilltopper Science Days, visits to professional schools and a Red Cross Blood Drive, the club sponsored several lectures related to health professions. Members of AED going on to professional schools in the fall are:

University of Louisville Medical School

| | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Kim Adams (Tompkinsville, Ky.) | Lisa Mikulcik (Murray Ky.) |
| David Chapman (Bowling Green, Ky.) | Janna Tuck (Franklin, Ky.) |
| Kim Eakle (Gamaliel, Ky.) | Brad Watkins (Bowling Green, Ky.) |
| Elizabeth McDonald (Louisville, Ky.) | Karen Wiggins (Hartford, Ky.) |

University of Louisville Dental School

| | |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Gina Davis (Beaver Dam, Ky.) | Barry Stahl (Rockfield, Ky.) |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|

University of Kentucky Medical School

| | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Todd Cheever (Corbin, Ky.) | Jerry Smith (Hopkinsville, Ky.) |
| Pat Dinning (Bowling Green, Ky.) | Edwina Hall Strickler (Elkton, Ky.) |
| Mark Newman (Greenville, Ky.) | |

Southern Illinois University Medical School

Mary Birch (Olney, Ill.)

Other biology majors accepted to professional schools include:

Kevin Wilson (Bowling Green, Ky.)
 Christopher LeNeave (Mayfield, Ky.)
 George Ransdell (Bowling Green, Ky.)
 Carl Spear (Burkesville, Ky.)

The Association of Medical Technology Students (AMTS) has sponsored several lectures this year. In addition, they served in the special olympics that was held here at Western. Sandra Jones (Burkesville, Ky.) will be president of the club during the 1987-88 academic year.

Students accepted into medical technology schools are as follows:

University of Louisville Medical Center

Lisa Butler (Garfield, Ky.)
 Lindsey Miller (Elizabethtown, Ky.)

Lourdes Hospital - Paducah, Ky.

Lisa Chiles (Hopkinsville, Ky.)
 Daniel Crowden (Madisonville, Ky.)

Owensboro-Daviess County Hospital

Andrew Moutardier (Owensboro, Ky.)
 Lisa Whitney (Drakesboro, Ky.)

St. Mary's Hospital - Evansville, Ind.

Ellen Estep (Dawson Springs, Ky.)

Vanderbilt Medical Center - Nashville, Tenn.

Lea Neely (Franklin, Ky.)

Elizabeth Stanfield (Nashville, Tenn.)

Scholarships

Due to the generosity of alumni, faculty, staff and friends of the department, we have been able to increase the number of scholarships awarded to students in the biological sciences. The Biology Scholarship Fund, initiated by faculty and now supported by alumni, staff and friends, has reached a value of \$28,500 as of December 31, 1986.

A special note of sympathy is made to Mrs. Florence Cole and family on the passing of Dr. B.C. Cole. The faculty and students deeply appreciate Dr. and Mrs. Cole for their assistance in the form of the Florence and Basil C. Cole Scholarships. Due to the generosity of the Cole family, twenty scholar-ships of \$500 each have been awarded in 1987-88.

These and other scholarship and developmental funds continue to be of major importance to our students and are greatly appreciated by the entire academic community. Several alumni may work for companies that have matching fund programs doubling or partially matching contributions from their employees. If you have questions about this fund, please contact the department or the College Heights Foundation.

Faculty News

The past year has been very rewarding to the department in the area of research grants. Three members of the department have been successful in obtaining extramural funding:

Dr. Valgene Dunham - NSF-EPSCoR; Controls of DNA replication in cauliflower mosaic virus infected cells. \$97,814 for 5 years.

Dr. Larry Gleason - National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Disease; Defense Reactions of Amphipods to Acanthocephala. \$68,502 for 2 years.

Dr. Joe Winstead - Marcia Athey Fund of the Kentucky Academy of Science and WKU; Sulfur deposition in the wood of shortleaf pine on the Cumberland Plateau of Kentucky in relation to atmospheric sulfate. \$20,400 for 2 years.

All three of these grants support graduate students on research assistant-ships.

The department is proud to announce that Dr. Blaine Ferrell was awarded the Ogden College Faculty Excellence Award at commencement last May. His activities in teaching, research and service have been of great credit to our department and appreciated by our students.

Dr. Tom Coohill has left the department to become head of the Department of Physics. Dr. Martin Houston has accepted the position of Associate Dean in Ogden College. Dr. Rudy Prins has replaced Dr. Herb Shadowen as our representative to Tech Aqua.

Dr. Robert Hoyt has been awarded a sabbatical leave for the fall semester, 1987. Dr. Hoyt will be visiting specific research laboratories involved with the early life history of fish to obtain access to literature data bases concerning marine and international studies. These visits include Hawaii, Scotland and four locations in the United States. Information obtained will be included in a bibliography of the subject presently being compiled by Dr. Hoyt.

Curriculum Changes

The department takes pleasure in announcing the establishment of a B.S. degree in Recombinant Genetics. This degree program in genetic engineering is the first of its type in Kentucky and one of six such programs in the United States. The following core courses are required:

| | <u>Credit</u> |
|------------------------------------|---------------|
| Biological Concepts I + Lab | 5 |
| Biological Concepts II + Lab | 5 |
| *Intro. to Molecular Biology + Lab | 3 |
| Developmental Biology + Lab | 4 |
| *Bacteriology + Lab | 4 |
| *Undergraduate Seminar | 1 |
| *Cell Biology + Lab | 4 |
| *Biochemistry + Lab | 5 |
| Molecular Genetics | 3 |
| Recombinant Gene Technology | 3 |

*Courses containing separate sections for the recombinant genetics major.


We already have met our expected enrollment of 15 for the fall semester and expect as many as 80 majors in four years.

Change of Location

Because of asbestos removal and renovation of the third floor of Thompson Complex North Wing, the department is scattered this summer between Snell Hall, Center Wing and the Environmental Sciences and Technology building. In addition, only the first floor of the North Wing will be occupied for the entire academic year 1987-88. Hopefully, this disruption will not inhibit any correspondence.

We trust this letter has been informative. With your help on the enclosed questionnaire, subsequent newsletters will contain more information about alumni. We would appreciate the names of any outstanding high school students that you might send us. Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,



Valgene L. Dunham, Head
Department of Biology

WESTERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY
BIOLOGICAL SCIENCE ALUMNI SURVEY
WESTERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY

1. Name

Address
(if different from that
on envelope)

2. Education

Year

Major

University

BA/BS

MA/MS

PhD/MD

EdD/DDS, DVM

OTHER

(circle correct degree(s))

3. Current job title or description

4. Present employer

5. News for Alumni Newsletter

Please return by Sept. 1, 1987.
Thank you for your assistance.